

## Preface and Acknowledgements

The Third Edition of *The Historical Atlas of Alabama, Volume 2, Cemetery Locations by County*, is a copyrighted product of the Cartographic Research Laboratory at the University of Alabama. Graduate and undergraduate students studying under my supervision staff this facility housed in the Department of Geography. One of the many roles of the Cartographic Research Laboratory has been the production of topical atlases. This is the second in a series of historical atlases. *Volume 1, Historical Locations by County*, address historical points of communication and commerce in Alabama.

The information compiled in this volume represents over fifteen years and many hundreds of hours of effort. I wish to express my appreciation to the many that helped along the way. Original contributors to the first edition were Graduate students Chet Christner, Lindsay Collier, Jerri Daniels, Michael Gartman, Lynn Hardegree, Chad Landgraf, Melanie Pelham and Lindy Weaver. Undergraduate contributors to the first edition were Lindsay Chapman, Steve Darby, Kevin Hull, David Massey, Tim Renicks and Melinda Timmerman. The second edition involved the work of dozens of graduate and undergraduate students, whom added to the original work. Acknowledgement of the current Cart Lab staff for their efforts in completing the second edition must include Meredith Bliss, Lisa Channell and Catherine E. Tucker. The third edition is a result of the work by graduate students Lauren Crain and Jimmy Hilly as well as undergraduate students Sophia Richey and Jake Pettus. Thanks go to University Map Librarian Tom Kallsen, Place Names Researcher Linda Watson and Administrative Assistant Leigh Ann Franklin. Much of the work on the Atlas involved library research. I would like to thank the many people who helped us at the Birmingham Public Library, the Foley Public Library, the Mobile Public Library, the Tuscaloosa Public Library, The Alabama Department of Archives and History as well as the Special Collections Library at the University of Alabama. Dozens of people throughout Alabama contributed their local knowledge on cemeteries for inclusion in the Atlas. These contributors deserve special recognition. With their input, the Atlas has become more than a reconstruction of existing facts.

While we have made every effort to compile reliable data, I would be remiss if I did not address some of the limitations of the information found in The Atlas. We have been a slave to our sources throughout the process of data accumulation. We have taken very few censuses and rarely gone to the field to secure positional accuracy of cemeteries. In other words, we have taken the information from our sources as fact. The facts themselves are often in dispute, even down to the most basic of cases, the name of the cemetery. To what degree our sources are correct or incorrect is unknown. I have little doubt that I will hear more in the future about the wrong and little about the right. I expect and encourage the input of additions and corrections from our readers. It is my intent to maintain and expand upon this database for the indefinite future in order to publish future editions of the Atlas. I look upon this work as the establishment of a baseline of facts about cemeteries, rather than the end of a process. You may address your comments to the **Cartographic Research Laboratory, Box 870322, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487**.

The maps also have implied limitations. In order to provide a page size county map, a number of cartographic constraints must be followed. The maps do not attempt to show every road, trail, or path that might lead to a cemetery. Judging from the notes provided by our sources, some of the cemeteries are found without any trouble while others require a guide. For the serious adventurer, I suggest the use of County Highway Maps available through the Alabama Department of Transportation or 7.5 minute topographic quadrangles available through the Alabama Geological Survey in Tuscaloosa or the United States Geological Survey. I would further caution that many of the cemeteries found in the Atlas are not found on either of these resources.

Atlas sales provide financial aid to Geography students working in the Cartographic Research Laboratory and the necessary support for future atlas projects. I hope that you find this reference source useful for years to come.

W.C.R.  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama  
September, 2016

